

PATENT SPECIFICATION

(11) 1 577 643

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- (21) Application No. 6035/77 (22) Filed 14 Feb. 1977
 (31) Convention Application No. 2605992
 (32) Filed 14 Feb. 1976 in
 (33) Federal Republic of Germany (DE)
 (44) Complete Specification published 29 Oct. 1980
 (51) INT CL³ C09D 5/00
 (52) Index at acceptance

C3K 202 220 221 291 296 NA
 C3W 100 121C 221 224
 C3Y B230 B240 F112



(54) SOLVENT-CONTAINING PAINT OR LACQUER COMPOSITIONS

(71) We, HERBERTS GMBH, of 25 Christbusch, D-5600 Wuppertal 2, Federal Republic of Germany, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to solvent containing paint or lacquer compositions.

Quick-drying paint or lacquer compositions contain relatively volatile solvents which have a low flash point. Generally the flash point of the composition is even lower than that of the solvent mixture contained in it. Due to the low flash point of such compositions which may be classified by the "danger class AI" considerable restrictions are placed on the storage or the construction of stores for the compositions, thus increasing the expense of their storage.

If the low-boiling solvents having a low flash point, such as isobutyl acetate, methyl ethyl ketone or toluene, are replaced by solvents having a higher flash-point, such as xylene or n-butyl acetate, the drying time is increased considerably. Consequently, in some cases painting of vertical surface is only conditionally possible. In the case of compositions for marking roads, the time for which the traffic is obstructed by marking work is prolonged considerably and, in the case of marking on black surfaces, discolouration may occur as a result of the road surface dissolving and causing the colours to run.

The present invention provides a solvent-containing paint or lacquer composition wherein the solvent comprises a total of at least 50 percent by weight of isobutyl acetate and/or toluene or a mixture thereof, and up to 35 percent by weight 1,1,2 - trichloro - trifluoroethane based on the total weight of the solvent, the solvent-containing paint or lacquer composition having a flash point of at least 21°C.

The compositions according to the invention have the advantage that they are

generally quick-drying and will have an elevated flash-point as compared to previously used compositions, preferably having a flash-point of at least 26°C. The composition usually also comprises an organic solvent. The halohydrocarbon added in accordance with the invention generally only acts as an extender or diluent. It cannot replace true solvents for the binder container in the compositions.

The content of the 1,1,2 - trichlorotrifluoroethane is not more than 35% by weight based on the total weight of the solvent. Higher contents of this compound, and also large quantities of extenders, can cause the paint to become unstable. The use of trichloro-trifluoroethane does not unduly accelerate the drying and it is also physiologically tolerable.

The invention also provides a diluent which may be used for paint or lacquer compositions according to the invention, which comprises at least 50 percent by weight of isobutyl acetate or toluene or a mixture thereof and up to 35 percent by weight of 1,1,2 - trichloro-trifluoroethane, based on the total weight of the diluent, the diluent having a flash point of at least 21°C. The diluent may include other components such as isopropanol, preferably in small quantities.

The quantity of 1,1,2 - trichlorotrifluoroethane necessary for the desired increase of the flash point can be determined by a preliminary test in each case. To increase the flash point sufficiently it is usually necessary to have a higher content of the compound in the finished coating composition than in diluents for example the diluents preferably contain only up to 25% trichloro-trifluoroethane by weight.

The following Examples illustrate the invention.

EXAMPLE 1

100 Parts of a paint composition based on acrylic resin contain 37 parts by weight of the following mixture:

weight of trichloro-trifluoroethane based on the total weight of the diluent.

11. A diluent as claimed in claim 9 or claim 10, which includes isopropanol.

- 5 12. A material or article which has been coated with a composition as defined in any one of claims 1 to 8.

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Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by the Courier Press, Leamington Spa, 1980
Published by The Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, WC2A 1AY, from
which copies may be obtained.